

COMMITTEE LANGUAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

AH-1W SERIES ACCOUNT: APN

PRESBUD	HNSC	SASC	CASC	HAC	SAC	CAC
22,394	33,394	33,394	33,394	27,894	33,394	27,894

HNSC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-532)

(Page 23 - Aircraft Procurement, Army)

TITLE I - PROCUREMENT (Dollars in Thousands)						
PROGRAM TITLE	FY 1999 AUTHORIZATION - REQUEST -		FY 1999 CTME CHANGE FROM REQUEST		FY 1999 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	
	QUANTITY	COST	QUANTITY	COST	QUANTITY	COST
AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY						
AIRCRAFT						
FIXED WING						
001 ARL (TIARA)	-	13,133	1	35,000	1	48,133
002 C-XX (MEDIUM RANGE) AIRCRAFT	-	-	-	-	-	-
003 GUARDRAIL COMMON SENSOR (TIARA)	-	1,931	-	-	-	1,931
ROTARY						
004 UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP)	22	243,820	8	66,400	30	310,220
004 LESS: ADVANCE PROCUREMENT (PY)	-	(25,000)	-	-	-	(25,000)
005 ADVANCE PROCUREMENT (CY)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL AIRCRAFT		233,884		101,400		338,284
MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT						
MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT						
006 GUARDRAIL MODS (TIARA)	-	36,079	-	-	-	36,079
007 AH-1F MODS	-	512	-	-	-	512
008 AH-64 MODS	-	52,902	-	-	-	52,902
009 CH-47 CARGO HELICOPTER MODS (MYP)	-	101,176	-	(12,700)	-	88,476
010 C-12 CARGO AIRPLANE MODS	-	2,658	-	7,000	-	9,658
011 OH-58 MODS	-	90	-	-	-	90
012 C-20 AIRCRAFT MODS	-	799	-	-	-	799
013 LONGBOW	-	607,028	-	-	-	607,028
013 LESS: ADVANCE PROCUREMENT (PY)	-	(36,932)	-	-	-	(36,932)
014 ADVANCE PROCUREMENT (CY)	-	41,683	-	-	-	41,683
015 UH-1 MODS	-	3,789	-	-	-	3,789
016 UH-60 MODS	-	21,657	-	-	-	21,657
017 KICWA WARRIOR	-	40,446	-	16,000	-	56,446
018 EH-60 QUICKFIX MODS	-	3,015	-	-	-	3,015
019 AIRBORNE AVIONICS	-	56,335	-	(10,000)	-	46,335
020 ASE MODS	-	2,743	-	-	-	2,743
021 MODIFICATIONS LESS THAN \$2.0M	-	1,660	-	-	-	1,660
TOTAL MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT		935,640		300		935,940

(Page 58 - Aircraft Procurement, Navy)
AH-1W Night Targeting System (NTS)

The budget request contained \$22.4 million for AH-1W helicopter modifications, and included \$9.1 million for the AH-1W NTS. According to the budget justification documents, fiscal year 1999 is the final procurement year for this system. The NTS provides a night and adverse weather capability to employ the Hellfire and tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire guided (TOW) missiles. In addition, NTS will provide enhanced conventional weapons delivery by utilizing the system's laser ranging capability. The Commandant of the Marine Corps' unfunded requirements list for fiscal year 1999 identified the procurement of 10 additional systems among his highest priorities so that the Marine Corps could achieve its objective of 188 systems

to modify training and attrition aircraft. Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$11.0 million for 10 NTSs.

SASC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-189)

(Page 77 - Aircraft Procurement, Navy)

OTHER NAVY PROGRAMS

AH-1W series

The budget request included \$9.1 million for the Marine Corps AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter. The committee notes a requirement to complete installation of night targeting systems for 10 additional aircraft and meet the established acquisition objective of 188 systems. The night targeting system kit provides night/adverse weather and autonomous missile capabilities for AH-1W attack helicopter platforms. The committee recommends an additional \$11.0 million to procure the remaining 10 kits and meet acquisition objectives.

(Page 122-123 - Procurement, National Guard and Reserve Equipment)

Army aviation modernization

The committee has completed a review of the Army aviation modernization plan called for in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998. While this plan makes progress in several areas, it does not adequately prioritize investment opportunities and leaves many requirements unfunded. In fact, for portions of the utility helicopter fleet, the plan failed to describe either a formal plan or details associated with a range of alternatives called for in the bill provision. The committee also understands that follow-on modifications to the plan have significantly changed the nature and scope of what was presented earlier this year. Consequently, the committee must assume that the provided plan does not provide a viable, balanced program for Army aviation.

The committee has several concerns with deficiencies identified in the current aviation modernization plan. First, the number one aviation modernization program for the Army is the ongoing development of the Comanche scout helicopter. If, in fact, the Comanche helicopter is a top priority, it is hard to understand why the Army continues to fund its number one program at a level so low that it has only resourced one prototype platform for flight testing. Although a second prototype will soon be moved to the flight test facility, current funding limitations will not support flight testing of this aircraft until January 2001.

Second, the Army is pursuing an inadequate procurement strategy for both the Apache Longbow and Comanche helicopters. Missing from the current strategy is adequate funding for self-protection countermeasures and sensor fusion capabilities which are key requirements for the survivability and effectiveness of these high-value platforms and their crews. The committee believes it essential that the Army ensure that Apache, Comanche, and other aircraft with similar requirements are provided with both the latest radio frequency and infrared countermeasures when procured, even if it means reducing the rate or number of aircraft procured.

Third, while the modernization plan would retire AH-1 aircraft in attack battalions more quickly than originally planned, it would still leave a sizeable number in the cavalry squadrons. An

even lower density aging aircraft will be more of a maintenance and support challenge. The committee believes that the Army should seek to retire the entire AH-1 fleet on an accelerated schedule.

Fourth, utility helicopter requirements are acknowledged, but not resourced in a balanced manner. The committee understands a further analysis of requirements has convinced the Army of the need for an additional 90 Blackhawks for the Army National Guard, but only 50 are currently funded in the future years defense program. However, the readiness of the Army National Guard's UH-1 fleet is a source of serious concern. The fleet is currently grounded and undergoing inspections and necessary repairs on spur gears. Even if this action returns the fleet to service, it does not address the modernization requirement for over 500 UH-1 aircraft remaining in the force. While reserving judgment until the Army analysis is complete, the committee is skeptical that the Army can afford to procure 145 commercial-off-the-shelf aircraft for the light utility helicopter role and conduct a service life extension program on the rest of the UH-1 fleet. The committee believes the Army must address this issue and assist the Congress in understanding how these requirements should be met.

The committee directs the Army to review the aviation modernization plan provided to the Congress earlier this year and provide an update to this plan that addresses the issues discussed in this report. The results of this review and update shall be provided to the congressional defense committees no later than January 31, 1999, to support a review of the President's fiscal year 2000 budget request.

CASC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-736)

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Title XII-Matters Relating to Other Nations

Subtitle D – Other Matters

SEC. 1234. TRANSFER OF EXCESS UH-1 HUEY AND AH-1 COBRA HELI-COPTERS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 153 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 2581. Excess UH-1 Huey and AH-1 Cobra helicopters: requirements for transfer to foreign countries

“(a) REQUIREMENTS.—(1) Before an excess UH-1 Huey helicopter or AH-1 Cobra helicopter is transferred on a grant or sales basis to a foreign country for the purpose of flight operations by that country, the Secretary of Defense shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the helicopter receives, to the extent necessary, maintenance and repair equivalent to the depot-level maintenance and repair (as defined in section 2460 of this title) that the helicopter would need were the helicopter to remain in operational use with the armed forces. Any such maintenance and repair work shall be performed at no cost to the Department of Defense.

“(2) The Secretary shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure that maintenance and repair work described in paragraph (1) is performed in the United States.

“(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to salvage helicopters provided to the foreign country solely as a source for spare parts.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:
“2581. Excess UH–1 Huey and AH–1 Cobra helicopters: requirements for transfer to foreign countries.”.

(Page 732)

Transfer of excess UH–1 Huey and AH–1 Cobra helicopters to foreign countries (sec. 1234)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1215) that would require the Secretary of Defense to make all reasonable efforts to ensure that any excess UH–1 Huey or AH–1 Cobra helicopters that are to be transferred to a foreign country for flight operations are in the same maintenance condition that such a helicopter would require for operational use by U.S. military forces. The Senate amendment contained no similar provision. The Senate recedes with an amendment that would require that any funds that are used for such maintenance be provided from funding sources outside of those available to the Department of Defense.

HAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-591)

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AH–1W SERIES

The Navy requested \$22,394,000 for AH–1 helicopter modifications. The Committee recommends \$27,894,000, an increase of \$5,500,000 only for night targeting systems. The Committee notes that the Commandant of the Marine Corps include the AH–1 night targeting systems on his list of unfunded requirements.

SAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-200)

(Page 61 - Aircraft Procurement, Navy)

Authorization adjustments.—The Committee recommends the following adjustments based on the recommendations reported in the Senate bill authorizing programs and activities of the Department of Defense [DOD] for fiscal year 1999:

[In thousands of dollars]

Item	1999 budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Change from budget estimate
AH-1W series	22,394	33,394	+ 11,000
Super Cobra night targeting system		11,000	+ 11,000
EP-3 series	5,437	7,437	+ 2,000
Spares and repairs		2,000	+ 2,000
P-3 series	268,633	279,133	+ 10,500
Antisurface Warfare Improvement Program [AIP] kits		12,200	+ 12,200
Lightweight environmentally sealed parachute assembly [LESPA] ¹		7,400	+ 7,400
P-3 weapon system trainer ²		— 9,100	— 9,100

¹ Increase reflects Committee recommendations as outlined in the "Program and project increases" heading of this report section.

² Program reduction recommended as described under the heading "Program reductions and deferrals."

CAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-746)

Contains no language.